



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Regular Meeting
November 18, 2008

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. George Blanchard District I, Chairman
Mr. Thomas S. Crumpton, Jr., District II
Mr. Mario Suarez, District III
Mr. Marion E. Lyles, District IV
Mr. H. Frank Ables, Jr., District V

Oconee County Council met on Tuesday, November 18, 2008 at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members [except Mr. Blanchard], County Administrator Dale K. Surrett, Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council & Mr. Bradley A. Norton, County Attorney present.

Press:

Members of the press notified (via mail): Keowee Courier, Westminster News, Daily Journal, Anderson Independent, WGOG Radio, WYFF TV, WLOS TV WSPA TV & WSNW Radio.

Member of the press present: Ray Chandler–Anderson Independent, Dick Mangrum-WGOG Radio, Ashton Hester-Westminster News/Keowee Courier & Brett McLaughlin-Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Vice Chairman Crumpton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Lyles led the pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag.

Minutes:

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 that the minutes from the November 6, 2008 regular meeting be adopted as printed.

Public Comment Session:

No citizens signed up for Public Comment at this meeting.

Extended Public Comment Session:

No citizens signed up for the Extended Public Comment Session at this meeting.

Ordinances for Approval:

Ordinance 2008-19:

Mr. Norton outlined the changes made in this ordinance that were discussed and approved at the Transportation Committee meeting held directly prior to this Council meeting. Major changes were made to Articles 5 & 7. Mr. Norton thanked Mr. Mack Kelly, Roads & Bridges Director/County Engineer, and Mr. Art Holbrooks, Planning Department Director for their many hours and tireless work on drafting this ordinance. Lastly, he noted that some minor work will still be done to incorporate comments from the meeting held this day.

Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 4 – 0 to approve **Ordinance 2008-19** “AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE ROAD STANDARDS FOR THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF OCONEE COUNTY AND REPEAL ALL OTHER ROAD RELATED ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS” on second reading.

Ordinance 2008-20:

Mr. Norton noted that no changes had been made to this ordinance since first reading.

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 4 – 0 to adopt **Ordinance 2008-20** “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAND DEVELOPMENT AND SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS CHAPTER OF THE OCONEE COUNTY UNIFIED PERFORMANCE STANDARDS ORDINANCE [CHAPTER 6], REPEALING ORDINANCE 2002-05 [Passed May 7, 2002], ORDINANCE 2006-07 [Passed May 1, 2006], AND ORDINANCE 2006-20 [Passed August 15, 2006].” on second reading.

Executive Session:

Mr. Crumpton asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a contractual matter.

Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 4 – 0 to enter into Executive Session for the reason stated above.

Council entered into Executive Session at 6:06 p.m.

Council returned from Executive Session at 6:23 p.m.

Mr. Crumpton stated that the SWAG Agreement had been discussed in Executive Session and asked Mr. Norton to address the issues discussed.

Items for Consideration by Council:

SWAG Agreement:

Mr. Norton outlined the provisions in the original SWAG Agreement and the changes made to this new document to include:

- the Agreement is no longer with the cities,
- the Sewer Commission is no longer referenced; it is now the Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority [OJRSA], and
- the removal of Oconee County as we are no longer in the sewer business

The new document is an Intergovernmental Agreement with the OJRSA with express language that \$610,000 is being allocated annually through the year 2038 to assist the OJRSA expand the sewer system in the unincorporated areas of Oconee County. The OJRSA agrees that these funds will only be used for capital upgrades and expansion of the wastewater treatment facilities and sewer conveyance systems owned and operated by the OJRSA.

Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Suarez, approved 4 – 0 to authorize execution of the Intergovernmental Agreement between Oconee County and the Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority.

RFQ 2008-10: Airport Engineering Consultant:

Mr. Surrett reviewed the bid process for RFQ 2008-10 for an Airport Engineering Consultant as outlined in the agenda item summary provided to Council.

Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 to authorize the County Administrator to execute the contract with Talbert & Bright for a period of one year with the option to renew for four additional one-year periods.

Procurement Sole Source Award / Emergency Services Department:

Mr. Surrett reviewed the staff's recommendation to award the purchase of extrication equipment to Henry Schein/Matrix Medical in the amount of \$100,000. He reviewed the rationale as outlined on the agenda item summary for this sole source request. Discussion followed

Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Suarez, approved 4 – 0 to authorize the award for three full sets of hydraulic extrication tools and one partial set to be used on emergency vehicles to Henry Schein/Matrix Medical in the amount of \$100,000 [budget code 01-107-50840].

Westminster Recreation Department Request for Funds:

Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Suarez, approved 4 – 0 to authorize \$10,000 [budget code 010-202-30904] for the Westminster Recreation Department for official's fees and football uniforms.

ATAX Grant / Downtown Seneca Merchant's Association / \$13,520 / Sponsorship/Advertising "Your Day" Radio Program:

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 4 – 0 to authorize \$13,520 to the Downtown Seneca Merchant's Association for sponsorship/advertising of "Your Day" radio program.

State ATAX Grant / Westminster Area Historic Preservation Society / \$5,700 / Renovation of General Store Museum:

Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 to authorize \$5,700 to the Westminster Area Historic Preservation Society for renovation of a historic building on Main Street, Westminster, for use as a General Store Museum.

Arts & Historical Grant / \$1,500 / Oconee Heritage Trails:

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 to authorize \$1,500 to the Oconee Heritage Trails organization to help fund research to publish a brochure promoting Oconee County’s historic sites.

BVB 2008-08 / Emergency Services / \$1,263,687.20 / Self Contained Breathing Apparatus:

Mr. Surrett reminded those present of Council’s actions in designating 2.9 mills to improve the fire service to the unincorporated areas of Oconee County. He noted that part of the mission of the Oconee County Emergency Services Department is to provide maximum safety for all of its personnel. Tonight approval for a Best Value Bid [BVB] is before Council for Self Contained Breathing Apparatus [SCBA]. Mr. Surrett reviewed the process for a BVB noting that the review committee for this bid consisted of four members; three Emergency Services Commission members and one staff member – the Training Officer. Mr. Jay Heatherington, Emergency Services Commission Chairman addressed Council and outlined their review process and recommendation to award the bid to Anderson Fire and Safety of Anderson, SC in the amount of \$1,263,687.20 for 238 SCBA’s [163 with face pieces with amplifiers and 90 face pieces with communication]. Mr. Ables questioned the differences in price and options/warranties. Mr. Al Wilimon from Safe Industries was present and also addressed some of Council’s questions. Lengthy discussion followed.

Mr. Crumpton & Mr. Suarez stated that they felt the selection committee had done a good job in reviewing the specifications and preparing their recommendation to Council. Mr. Surrett noted that no bidder voiced concerns that the specifications outlined by the county in the bid package could not be met by their company. Mr. Surrett thanked the selection committee [several members present in chambers] for their diligent work on this project.

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 3 – 1 [Mr. Ables opposed] to award BVB 2008-08 to Anderson Fire & Safety of Anderson, SC in the amount of \$1,263,687.20 for SCBA’s for Oconee County Emergency Services as out lined in the agenda item summary and bid package.

RFP 2008-07 / GIS / \$176,787 / Mobile Video Imaging & Address Verification Project:

Mr. Surrett reviewed the goals of this GIS project to include accurate street address information, digital images of each parcel for use by the Assessor’s office and geographical location data for each improved property in the County. He reviewed the public safety component which this project will provide to police, fire, rescue and EMS personnel in response to an emergency situation.

Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 to authorize \$176,787 to Yotta MVS, Inc. North Kansas City, MO for the Mobile Video Imaging & Address Verification Project [budget code 012-301-50840].

Council Committee Reports:

Transportation:

Mr. Crumpton reported that the Transportation Committee met earlier today at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers and discussed Ordinance 2008-19 “AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE ROAD STANDARDS FOR THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF OCONEE COUNTY AND REPEAL ALL OTHER ROAD RELATED ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS”. It was the recommendation from the Committee that the ordinance be presented to Council for second reading [second reading took place earlier in the meeting].

Law, Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee Report:

Mr. Blanchard was not present at this meeting - no report was presented.

Budget, Finance & Administration:

Mr. Ables had no report at this meeting.

Planning & Economic Development:

Mr. Suarez had no report at this meeting.

Real Estate, Facilities & Land Management:

Mr. Lyles had no report at this meeting.

Commission / Board Reports to Council:

There were no reports presented at this meeting.

Board & Commission Appointments:

Scenic Highway Committee:

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 to appoint the following two members to the Scenic Highway Committee:

- Mr. Allen D. Boggs, 103 Letson Circle, Walhalla, SC
- Ms. Nancy Basket, 1105 East Main Street, Walhalla, SC

Board of Zoning Appeals – District IV:

Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 to appoint Mr. Mike Willimon, 354 East Bennett Road, Westminster, SC as the District IV representative on the Board of Zoning Appeals with this term ending January 2012.

Administrator's Report:

Mr. Surrett had no report at this meeting.

Old Business:

There was no Old Business discussed at this meeting.

New Business:

There was no New Business discussed at this meeting.

Adjourn:

Mr. Crumpton asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Lyles made a motion at 7:15 p.m. The motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council